

(b) Any person whose interests may be affected by renewal of the permit may request a hearing on the application for renewal. The request for a hearing must comply with 10 CFR 2.309. If a hearing is granted, notice of the hearing will be published in accordance with 10 CFR 2.309.

(c) An early site permit, either original or renewed, for which a timely application for renewal has been filed, remains in effect until the Commission has determined whether to renew the permit. If the permit is not renewed, it continues to be valid in certain proceedings in accordance with the provisions of § 52.27(b).

(d) The Commission shall refer a copy of the application for renewal to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS). The ACRS shall report on those portions of the application which concern safety and shall apply the criteria set forth in § 52.31.

[54 FR 15386, Apr. 18, 1989, as amended at 69 FR 2277, Jan. 14, 2004]

§ 52.31 Criteria for renewal.

(a) The Commission shall grant the renewal if the Commission determines that the site complies with the Atomic Energy Act and the Commission's regulations and orders applicable and in effect at the time the site permit was originally issued, and any new requirements the Commission may wish to impose after a determination that there is a substantial increase in overall protection of the public health and safety or the common defense and security to be derived from the new requirements and that the direct and indirect costs of implementation of those requirements are justified in view of this increased protection.

(b) A denial of renewal on this basis does not bar the permit holder or another applicant from filing a new application for the site which proposes changes to the site or the way in which it is used which correct the deficiencies cited in the denial of the renewal.

§ 52.33 Duration of renewal.

Each renewal of an early site permit may be for not less than ten nor more than twenty years.

§ 52.35 Use of site for other purposes.

A site for which an early site permit has been issued under this subpart may be used for purposes other than those described in the permit, including the location of other types of energy facilities. The permit holder shall inform the Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation of any significant uses for the site which have not been approved in the early site permit. The information about the activities must be given to the Director in advance of any actual construction or site modification for the activities. The information provided could be the basis for imposing new requirements on the permit, in accordance with the provisions of § 52.39. If the permit holder informs the Director that the holder no longer intends to use the site for a nuclear power plant, the Director shall terminate the permit.

§ 52.37 Reporting of defects and non-compliance; revocation, suspension, modification of permits for cause.

For purposes of part 21 and 10 CFR 50.100, an early site permit is a construction permit.

§ 52.39 Finality of early site permit determinations.

(a)(1) Notwithstanding any provision in 10 CFR 50.109, while an early site permit is in effect under §§ 52.27 or 52.33 the Commission may not impose new requirements, including new emergency planning requirements, on the early site permit or the site for which it was issued, unless the Commission determines that a modification is necessary either to bring the permit or the site into compliance with the Commission's regulations and orders applicable and in effect at the time the permit was issued, or to assure adequate protection of the public health and safety or the common defense and security.

(2) In making the findings required for issuance of a construction permit, operating license, or combined license, or the findings required by § 52.103 of this part, if the application for the construction permit, operating license, or combined license references an early site permit, the Commission shall treat as resolved those matters resolved in the proceeding on the application for

issuance or renewal of the early site permit, unless a contention is admitted that a reactor does not fit within one or more of the site parameters included in the site permit, or a petition is filed which alleges either that the site is not in compliance with the terms of the early site permit, or that the terms and conditions of the early site permit should be modified.

(i) A contention that a reactor does not fit within one or more of the site parameters included in the site permit may be litigated in the same manner as other issues material to the proceeding.

(ii) A petition alleging that the site is not in compliance with the terms of the early site permit must include, or clearly reference, official NRC documents, documents prepared by or for the permit holder, or evidence admissible in a proceeding under subpart C of 10 CFR part 2, which show, *prima facie*, that the acceptance criteria have not been met. The permit holder and NRC staff may file answers to the petition within the time specified in 10 CFR 2.323 for answers to motions by parties and staff. If the Commission, in its judgment, decides, on the basis of the petitions and any answers thereto, that the petition meets the requirements of this paragraph, that the issues are not exempt from adjudication under 5 U.S.C. 554(a)(3), that genuine issues of material fact are raised, and that settlement or other informal resolution of the issues is not possible, then the genuine issues of material fact raised by the petition must be resolved in accordance with the provisions in 5 U.S.C. 554, 556, and 557 which are applicable to determining applications for initial licenses.

(iii) A petition which alleges that the terms and conditions of the early site permit should be modified will be processed in accord with 10 CFR 2.206. Before construction commences, the Commission shall consider the petition and determine whether any immediate action is required. If the petition is granted, then an appropriate order will be issued. Construction under the construction permit or combined license will not be affected by the granting of the petition unless the order is made immediately effective.

(iv) Prior to construction, the Commission shall find that the terms of the early site permit have been met.

(b) An applicant for a construction permit, operating license, or combined license who has filed an application referencing an early site permit issued under this subpart may include in the application a request for a variance from one or more elements of the permit. In determining whether to grant the variance, the Commission shall apply the same technically relevant criteria as were applicable to the application for the original or renewed site permit. Issuance of the variance must be subject to litigation during the construction permit, operating license, or combined license proceeding in the same manner as other issues material to those proceedings.

[54 FR 15386, Apr. 18, 1989, as amended at 69 FR 2277, Jan. 14, 2004]

Subpart B—Standard Design Certifications

§ 52.41 Scope of subpart.

This subpart set out the requirements and procedures applicable to Commission issuance of rules granting standard design certification for nuclear power facilities separate from the filing of an application for a construction permit or combined license for such facility.

§ 52.43 Relationship to appendices M, N, and O of this part.

(a) Appendix M to this part governs the issuance of licenses to manufacture nuclear power reactors to be installed and operated at sites not identified in the manufacturing license application. Appendix N governs licenses to construct and operate nuclear power reactors of duplicate design at multiple sites. These appendices may be used independently of the provisions in this subpart unless the applicant also wishes to use a certified standard design approved under this subpart.

(b) Appendix O governs the NRC staff review and approval of preliminary and final standard designs. A NRC staff approval under appendix O in no way affects the authority of the Commission